

## **DOYLE CUP NOTES - GAME ONE**

Spruce Grove Saints at Wenatchee Wild

Friday April 27, 2018



Welcome to Game 1 of the CJHL Doyle Cup Series, presented locally by Plumb Perfect as the BCHL Fred Page Cup Champion Wenatchee Wild face the AJHL Inter Pipeline Cup Champion Spruce Grove Saints in this best-of-seven series beginning tonight at Town Toyota Center. The series winner will advance to Royal Bank Cup Tournament in Chilliwack to determine Hockey Canada's National Champion.

**ROAD TO THE DOYLE CUP (WENATCHEE):** The Wild finished in third place in the BCHL's Interior Division. After sweeping Merritt in four straight, the Wild dropped the first two on the road at Vernon but stormed back to win four straight. With home ice advantage in each of the last two series, Wenatchee took 3-0 series leads against Trail, and again against Prince George before winning both series at home in Game 5. The league championship is the first ever for the Wild in their ten year history, having lost twice in the NAHL Championship Game. **POSTSEASON RECORD: 16-4** 

**ROAD TO THE DOYLE CUP (SPRUCE GROVE):** The Saints were the top seed in the Viterra AJHL North Division, and, like Wenatchee, sported the leagues most potent offense. Spruce Grove waltzed through their first round opponent with three shutout wins, outscoring Grande Prairie 28-2. The Saints also swept their second round opponent, the Whitecourt Wolverines, though three of the four games were one-goal games, and one came in overtime. In the finals, Spruce Grove won the first two games over Okotoks in overtime, and the Oilers avoided a sweep with a Game 4 win but it would be the only loss for the Saints on their path to the Inter Pipeline Cup. **POSTSEASON RECORD: 12-1** 

WHO TO WATCH FOR: BCHL MVP Jasper Weatherby (15g, 23a) led the BCHL overall in the playoffs, and AJ Vanderbeck (13g, 15a) is ranked third. BCHL Top Defenseman Cooper Zech (4g, 19a) led all BCHL blueliners. Goalie Austin Park is now 15-4, with a 2.20 GAA and .905 save pct. Spruce Grove leading scorer Chris Van Os-Shaw is listed as "doubtful" for the series after breaking a finger. Josh Harris (6g, 9a) and Austin Parmiter (4g, 9a) carry the load up front, Sean Comrie (1g, 9a) and TJ Lloyd (3g, 7a) from the blue line. Goalie Nolan Kent is 12-1, with a 1.58 GAA and .923 save percentage.

**SPECIAL TEAMS**: Power Play: WEN PP – 19/76 25.0%  $\overline{SGS PP - 12/42}$  28.6%

Penalty Kill: WEN PK – 7/54 87.0% SGS PK – 5/36 86.1%

**MEDIA:** Tonight's game and all Wild games are aired on Sunny FM (93.9 FM), and available on a pay-per-view basis with HockeyTV.com. Pregame show airs tonight at 6:45 pm.

\*\*DOYLE CUP SERIES HOME SCHEDULE\*\*

Game 2 – Sat Apr 28 at Wenatchee 7:05 pm
\*Game 3 – Sun Apr 29 at Wenatchee 7:05 pm
(\* - if first two games are split)

Call 509-888-7825 and ask about how our easy payment plans can make it easy to afford your hockey addiction! Wenatcheewildhockey.com

